

December 7, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman  
The Honorable Michael O’Rielly, Commissioner  
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner  
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
455 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Southwest  
Washington, DC, 20544

RE: MB Docket No 05-311 In the Matter of Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992

I am writing in support of the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance (“CAPA”) in the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making. We oppose the tentative conclusions the FCC reaches in the proceeding because of their impacts on our community.

Access Framingham TV, as well as our government and education channels are an integral part of our community, keeping residents informed, promoting our city’s history and talents, and allowing for an incredible opportunity for our students and interns. Having lived in this city for over 30 years, we have seen first-hand the value of our Framingham Education Channel, which is part of our high school. Our son learned to do sportscasting, to produce and edit programs and to honor commitments from the courses he took in the TV studio at the high school. Many of his friends have gone on to wonderful careers in communications with major networks in Hollywood, Miami and elsewhere. This kind of community-embedded education is crucial for this next generation.

It is also an important part of protecting our freedom of speech. By placing undue financial burdens on our local stations, it is threatening not only their existence but also the very fiber of our democracy.

This local presence encourages viewers in our city to watch cable television as was intended by the 1984 Cable Act – by enhancing local voices, serving local viewers and informing our citizens. By defining “in-kind” support in an overly broad fashion, the rule making will shift the fair balance between local and state authorities and cable operators and will force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels which was never the intent of the Act.

By allowing cable operators to reduce franchise fee support for local communities if they opt for local channels, the FNPRM diminishes the ability of PEG channels to serve communities such as ours. We ask that it not be adopted.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Lach

Producer and Cohost of *Novel Ideas: Chats with Local Authors*  
Access Framingham TV